

## Message Text

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44

ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IGA-02 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /033 W  
----- 006270

P R 071253Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6572

INFO AMEMBASSY MANAMA

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MANAMA FOR DODSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID

SUBJECT: COUNTRY FINANCED SERVICES: GOK ADMINISTRATIVE  
RE-ORGANIZATION

REF: (A) STATE 270920, (B) KUWAIT 5144.

1. SUMMARY: ON PRESENTING SIMPLIFIED LETTER NOV. 6 PER  
REFTEL (A) AMBASSADOR WAS INFORMED BY FONMIN UNDERSEC  
THAT GOK HAS DECIDED AGAINST SEEKING A GOVERNMENT-TO-  
GOVERNMENT ARRANGEMENT TO HANDLE ADMINISTRATIVE REORGANIZE NOW PLANS  
TO CONTACT THROUGH KUWAIT EMBASSY  
WASHINGTON AN "INSTITUTION" WHICH MIGHT HANDLE PROJECT  
THROUGH A KUWAITI COUNTERPART INSTITUTION. AMBASSADOR  
SUGGESTED THAT KUWAITI AMBASSADOR JAAFAR CONSULT AID  
COUNTRY-FINANCED SERVICES OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING  
INSTITUTION TO SUPPLY SUCH EXPERTISE. END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR, ACCOMPANIED BY DCM, CALLED ON MFA UNDER-  
SECRETARY RASHID AL-RASHID NOV. 6 AND PRESENTED SIMPLIFIED  
LETTER OF AGREEMENT CONTAINED REFTEL (A). RASHID  
SAID HE HAD ALREADY DISCUSSED THIS APPROACH WITH PRIME  
MINISTER'S OFFICE, FOLLOWING UP AMBASSADOR'S INFORMAL  
SUGGESTION (REF B). AL-RASHID UNDERSTOOD PERFECTLY WELL  
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THE FACT THAT SERVICES AND TRAVEL OF AMERICAN EXPERTS TO

CONDUCT PRELIMINARY STUDY WOULD REQUIRE FUNDING BY GOK.  
IN FACT AL-RASHID HAD URGED PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE ACCEPT  
USG PROPOSAL. HOWEVER, IN END IT HAD BEEN DECIDED TO  
HAVE PROJECT PURSUED WITHOUT INVOLVEMENT IN A GOVERNMENT-  
TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIP.

3. AL-RASHID SAID THAT HE WILL BE INSTRUCTING KUWAIT  
AMBASSADOR JAAFAR IN WASHINGTON TO CONTACT A SUITABLE  
"INSTITUTION" WHICH COULD CONDUCT THE PROJECT ON THE BASIS  
OF DIRECT CONTACTS BETWEEN IT AND A KUWAITI COUNTERPART  
INSTITUTION. AL-RASHID IMPLIED (WITHOUT SPECIFICALLY SAYING  
SO) THAT THIS APPROACH WAS MORE ATTRACTIVE TO THE PRIME  
MINISTER'S OFFICE BECAUSE IT WOULD AVOID THE PROBLEM OF  
ADVANCE FUNDING. AL-RASHID ASSURED AMBASSADOR THAT GOK WAS  
STILL CONVINCED AMERICAN EXPERTISE WAS NECESSARY AND  
THEIR EFFORT WOULD BE AIMED AT RECRUITING THE SERVICES OF  
THE VERY BEST PEOPLE AVAILABLE.

4. AMBASSADOR COMMENTED THAT PROPOSAL OF ACCOMPLISHING  
THIS PROJECT THROUGH AN INSTITUTION-TO-INSTITUTION  
RELATIONSHIP WAS A POSSIBLE ONE AND REMINDED AL-RASHID THAT  
THIS HAD BEEN ONE OF THE ALTERNATIVES DISCUSSED IN OUR  
EARLIER TALKS WITH THE DIRECTOR OF PRIME MINISTER'S  
OFFICE AL-BAHAR. WE HAD PURSUED THE GOVERNMENT-TO  
GOVERNMENT APPROACH BECAUSE THIS WAS INDICATED AS GOK'S  
PREFERENCE.

5. AL-RASHID SAID THAT THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
REGRETS HAVING CAUSED US TROUBLE. AMBASSADOR REPLIED  
THAT THERE WAS NO TROUBLE INVOLVED AND SUGGESTED THAT  
AL-RASHID SHOULD TELL AMB. JAAFAR TO GET IN TOUCH WITH AID  
OFFICE OF COUNTRY-FINANCED SERVICES WHICH MIGHT BE ABLE TO  
OFFER ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING APPROPRIATE INSTITUTIONS.  
AL-RASHID FELT THAT JAAFAR WOULD RELY ON KUWAIT DESK SERVICE  
IN THIS MATTER AND PRESUMED AID OFFICE WOULD BE INDICATED.  
AMBASSADOR TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO STRESS AGAIN THAT AID IS USG-  
DESIGNATED AGENCY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AND  
ONLY ONE WITH LEGISLATED AUTHORITY TO HANDLE REIMBURSEABLE  
PROGRAMS THROUGH COUNTRY-FINANCED SERVICES OFFICE. AMBASSADOR  
THEN MENTIONED FORTHCOMING VISIT OF THAT OFFICE'S DIRECTOR,  
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THOMAS MOSER (SEE SEPTTEL), AND SUGGESTED THAT AL-RASHID AND  
ALSO AL-BAHAR MIGHT WISH TO MEET WITH HIM. AL-RASHID  
EXPRESSED INTEREST IN MEETING MOSER AND THOUGHT THAT AL-  
AHAR WOULD ALSO.

6. COMMENT: WE REGRET VERY MUCH THAT GOK HAS CHOSEN NOT  
TO PURSUE EXCELLENT ARRANGEMENTS WHICH AID WAS IN PROCESS OF  
ORGANIZING. WHILE CERTAINLY ONE OF THE ALTERNATIVES FOR

ACCOMPLISHING THE OBJECTIVES THE GOK PRESUMABLY HAS IN MIND IN RESPECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE REORGANIZATION OF GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONS IS AN ARRANGEMENT WITH AN INSTITUTION, POSSIBLY A UNIVERSITY LIKE SYRACUSE AND ITS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, OR WITH A MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT FIRM, PUTTING MATTER INTO THE HANDS OF THE KUWAITI EMBASSY AND AMB. JAAFER WILL CERTAINLY SERVE TO DELAY THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS PROJECT. IF JAAFER DOES INDEED APPROACH AID'S COUNTRY-FINANCED SERVICES OFFICE, WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP MOVE THE PROJECT A LITTLE MORE RAPIDLY. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NOT YET GIVEN UP TOTALLY THE IDEA OF RETURNING TO ORIGINALLY PROPOSED ARRANGEMENT, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF MOSER'S FORTHCOMING VISIT. WE WOULD HOPE THAT, THROUGH MEETINGS WITH AL-RASHID AND AL-BAHAR, PROBLEM OF AID INVOLVEMENT AND THE SEEMING RELUCTANCE TO FACE UP TO THE FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE OPERATION MAY BE OVERCOME. WHILE OTHER MINISTRIES AND, OF COURSE, KUWAITIS OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT ARE PERFECTLY ACCUSTOMED TO MAKING THE USUAL COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS, APPARENTLY THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE IS NOT RELY USED TO THESE METHODS. AL-BAHAR, AND POSSIBLY THE PRIME MINISTER, APPARENTLY HAD IN THEIR MINDS THE IDEA THAT USG WOULD EASILY PROVIDE THE ADVICE THEY WERE SEEKING BY SENDING TO KUWAIT FOR A BRIEF VISIT SOME OF OUR TOP GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS. THEIR EXPECTATION SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN THAT THESE WOULD COME AS THE GUESTS OF THE GOK, BUT THAT THE ADVICE PROVIDED WOULD PROBABLY BE GRATIS. THIS IS SIMPLY NOT THE WAY THINGS WORK.

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## Message Attributes

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